

Message Text

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ACTION EB-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 STR-02 STRE-00 AGRE-00 NSCE-00

SP-02 L-01 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6480

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 03050

LIMDIS

PASS ELECTRONICALLY STR FOR STARKEY AND USDA FOR HATHAWAY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD EAGR OCON

SUBJECT: SAYLOR MEETING WITH PAROTTE

1. ON FRIDAY, FEB 24, SAYLOR MET WITH PAROTTE TO DISCUSS ORGANIZATION, TIMETABLE AND GENERAL PROGRESS OF UNCTAD NEGOTIATIONS. PAROTTE INDICATED CONCERN ABOUT THE SLOW PACE OF DISCUSSIONS AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE FOR WHEAT COULD FINISH FIRST READING OF NEGOTIATING DRAFT BY TUESDAY. PAROTTE PROPOSED THAT COMMITTEE ORGANIZE WORKING GROUP COMPOSED OF A LIMITED NUMBER OF IMPORTING AND EXPORTING COUNTRIES TO BE CHAIRED BY POLEZHAEV OR VAZNAUGH FOR PURPOSE OF TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS AND POSSIBLE DRAFTING. SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT FOR COARSE GRAINS. ALSO PROPOSED CONTACT GROUP OF KEY DELEGATIONS BE BEGIN WORKING WITH CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN DUNKEL LATE NEXT WEEK TO RESOLVE PRIMARY POLITICAL ISSUES. IN THIS REGARD PAROTTE FELT THAT RESOLUTION OF THESE ISSUES CRUCIAL SOMETIME DURING WEEK OF MARCH 7 TO PERMIT TIME FOR DRAFTING AND RESOLUTION OF SECONDARY ISSUES.

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2. PAROTTE WAS OPTIMISTIC WITH REGARD TO POSSIBILITY OF RESOLVING BASIC ISSUES. SAYLOR INDICATED WILLINGNESS ON US PART TO RESOLVE MAJOR DIFFERENCES BUT WAS DOUBTFUL THAT ISSUES COULD BE RESOLVED AT EARLY DATE. PAROTTE SAID HE WAS AWARE OF US CONCERN ABOUT AVOIDING CONFRONTATION WITH EC BEFORE THE FRENCH ELECTIONS. HOWEVER IN PAROTTE'S VIEW

THIS WAS A "RED HERRING." SAYLOR INDICATED THAT REGARDLESS OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF FRENCH ELECTIONS HE WAS CERTAIN HE COULD NOT GET HIS GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT TO PUSH BASIC ISSUES IF IT LEAD TO A MAJOR PUBLIC CONFRONTATION BEFORE MARCH 19. PAROTTE INDICATED THAT A PUBLIC CONTRONTATION MAY NOT BE NECESSARY AND THAT, IN HIS VIEW, ENOUGH FLEXIBILITY ON ALL SIDES WOULD PERMIT SOLUTION OF MAJOR AREAS OF DISAGREEMENT. SAYLOR REITERATED THAT THERE WAS NO FLEXIBILITY ON HIS GOVERNMENT'S PART WITH RESPECT TO THE QUESTION OF FIXED TRADING PRICES. PAROTTE SAID HE THOUGHT THAT THIS WAS A MATTER THAT COULD BE WORKED OUT WITH APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE TO BOTH THE US AND EC'S SATISFACTION. ON COARSE GRAINS PAROTTE SUGGESTED THAT THE US WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS COARSE GRAINS AND ITS INTRODUCTION INTO THESE NEGOTIATIONS NECESSITATED THAT THE EC WOULD HAVE TO HAVE SOMETHING TO TAKE AWAY FROM THESE TALKS. IN THIS REGARD HE FELT THAT THE EC WOULD BE SATISFIED WITH CONSULTATIVE AND INFORMATION-SHARING PROVISIONS. SAYLOR INDICATED IT WAS NOT ONLY ECONOMIC PROVISIONS THAT THE US OPPOSED BUT THAT ANY PROVISIONS RELATING TO COARSE GRAINS WOULD BE VIEWED BY DOMESTIC INTERESTS AS A FIRST STEP TOWARD A COARSE GRAINS ARRANGEMENT AND WAS POLITICALLY INACCEPTABLE. SAYLOR FFURTHER REMINDED PAROTTE THAT THE NEGOTIATION OF ECONOMIC PROVISIONS FOR WHEAT, EVEN OF A STABILIZATION CHARACTER WAS AT BEST POLITICALLY NEUTRAL OR MILDLY NEGATIVE WITH DOMESTIC INTERESTS BUT EXTENSION OF PROVISIONS TO COARSE
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GRAINS COULD LIKELY LEAD TO A REJECTION OF AN AGREEMENT TO THE CONGRESS.

3. FINALLY, SAYLOR POINTED OUT THAT DATUM QUANTITIES WERE ALSO POLITICALLY UNACCEPTABLE TO DOMESTIC INTEREST AND THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO MAKE HIS GOVERNMENT'S POSITION CLEAR IN THIS REGARD'

4. PAROTTE SAID HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO ARRANGE A DINNER BETWEEN HIMSELF, SAYLOR AND PIZZUTI WHICH HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY EVENING. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, OCON, (SAYLOR, THOMAS R), (PAROTTE, J H)
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